

ated the former weak points of each breed. Furthermore, the use of carefully selected sires from a single breed tends to improve the uniformity in conformation and color, both important considerations from a marketing standpoint.

Feeding. Beef cattle as well as range sheep in Utah are summered largely on the high mountain ranges of the state. They are wintered on desert or other range with or without supplementary feeds according to climatic and range conditions. It is estimated that only two per cent of the cattle of Washington County and five per cent of the cattle of Kane County are winter fed, and these receive only one-half ton of hay per head during but two months of the year while all of the cattle of Cache, Morgan, Rich, Sanpete, Summit, and Wasatch counties are fed for a period of from four



FIGURE 80—Typical sheep-shearing plant, Iron County, Utah.

to six months and receive from one to one and one-half tons of hay per head in addition to what grazing they may do.

Although some steers and cows are shipped fat off the summer ranges, the majority of Utah's cattle are sold as feeders in the fall. During recent years there has been a tendency to market younger cattle where quality will permit. It is a well recognized fact that younger animals make more economical gains than older animals. This fact together with the increased demand for lighter cuts of meats adds incentive to the desire to produce better quality cattle and market them at an earlier age.

Management. The semi-arid climate, rugged ranges, and rather severe winters in Utah require careful attention to management plans if maximum returns are to be secured in the beef cattle business.

Some of the points stressed by successful range cattlemen in attempting to secure the highest possible calf drop are, number and quality of sires, control of the breeding season, conditioning of bulls and maintenance of vitality of all breeding stock, shipment of all dry cows over three years of age, segregation of the steers and breeding herd.